

Biosecurity on the Farm

Last Updated: May 1, 2005



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY®

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Signs that may indicate a possible agroterrorism event

- Unusually high number of sick animals, deaths, or abortions
- Abnormal or unusual signs not typically seen for a particular disease
- Disease occurrence outside of its normal expected season
- Multiple outbreaks of the same illness
- Unusual route of exposure suspected
- Multiple cases of mysterious or unusual illness
- Illness occurring in both animals and persons in contact with animals

Prevention and control

- **Deter access to your farm**
 - Limit access to your farm to one gated road
 - Keep all gates locked when not in use
 - Keep all unused buildings locked
 - Implement rodent and bird control in barns, especially feed areas
- **Visitors**
 - Post signs to inform visitors of rules to follow while on the farm
 - Monitor and document all visits and visitors to your farm
 - Do not take visitors to livestock areas or barns unless necessary
- **Employees**
 - Pre-screen new employees
 - Train employees on common disease signs and patterns, so they will recognize unusual illness signs in animals
- **Personal**
 - Wash hands thoroughly with soap before and after accessing livestock areas
 - Use clean coveralls and rubber or disposable boots for each farm
 - Provide coveralls to all visitors/veterinarians; these coveralls should remain on the farm for cleaning
 - Provide rubber or disposable boots to all visitors or veterinarians; these boots should remain on the farm for disposal or disinfection
 - Do not wear contaminated clothing or boots off of the farm
- **Animals**
 - Isolate all new animals
 - Never feed table scraps or garbage to farm animals
 - Call the herd veterinarian immediately if unusual illness or signs are noticed
- **Vehicles**
 - Post signs to designate specific parking and driving areas
 - Park vehicles away from barns and livestock areas, preferably on concrete
 - Avoid the transfer of dirt, mud or manure by vehicles
 - Attend to vehicles carrying livestock at all times

Who to contact

- **Keep a list of important phone numbers**
 - Herd veterinarian
 - State Veterinarian's office
 - Local police department
 - Local and State public health department
- **If you detect suspicious activity**
 - Contact personnel on the above list
 - Monitor livestock until authorities arrive
 - Isolate any livestock with which the intruder may have had contact